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ABSTRACT

An anti-bias curriculum focuses not only on the richness of various cultures, but also on seeing cultures as differing responses to common human needs--for food, shelter, fellowship, governance, and other necessities. Thus, cultures and peoples are not superior or inferior, just different. The anti-bias curriculum presented in this book has the following goals: (1) to help each child develop a positive self-concept, based on an understanding of his or her uniqueness and self-worth; (2) to develop in children an acceptance and appreciation of differences in individuals and cultures; (3) to encourage decision making about people based on appropriate information, rather than stereotypes; and (4) to help children develop attitudes and understanding that will allow them to function in a multicultural, multiracial world. The chapters follow: (1) "Why We Need an Anti-Bias Curriculum"; (2) "Creating a Supportive Environment"; (3) "Taking Advantage of How Young Children Learn," focusing on pre-operation learners, concrete experiences, the present, single attributes, egocentrism, and children's learning patterns; (4) "Bringing Anti-Bias Resources and Materials into Your Classroom"; (5) "Getting Started"; (6) "Expanding the Scope: Schoolwide Efforts"; (7) "Involving Families"; (8) "Activities Focusing on Same and Different"; (9) "Activities Relating to Cultural Awareness and Ethnocentricity"; (10) "Activities Building Disability Awareness"; and (11) "Activities Challenging Prejudice, Stereotypes, and Discrimination." A bibliography listing 30 resources for teachers is provided, along with a listing of 91 books for children. (BGC)